

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01    WARSAW 02678 191226Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
    INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
    SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 /061 W  
    -----191227Z 006827 /20

R 191135Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7666  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2678

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT PL  
SUBJECT: WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE MEMBERS HELD BY POLICE

REF: (A) WARSAW 1625, (B) WARSAW 2664  
(C) MEMO TO FILES, APRIL 8, 1977

1. THE POLISH POLICE BROKE UP A MEETING OF STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE ON APRIL 15. ACCORDING TO JACEK KURON, WHO PHONED WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS AFTER BEING HELD FORTY-FIVE HOURS, THE STUDENTS WERE RELEASED AFTER THEIR NAMES WERE TAKEN. KURON WAS DETAINED ALONG WITH WDL LEADERS MIROSLAW CHOJECKI, ANTONI MACIEREWICZ, AND FOUR WDL SUPPORTERS, TO TESTIFY AS A "WITNESS" AT A HEARING PROBING HOW "FALSE INFORMATION HARMFUL TO THE POLISH STATE" HAD BEEN PASSED TO "FOREIGN CENTERS".  
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NO CHARGES WERE FILED.

2. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT RESEMBLES A SIMILAR ONE ON MARCH 4 (REF A). IT DIFFERS IN THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS THEMSELVES WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AND HANDCUFFS WERE USED. KURON REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT THE AUTHORITIES WANT TO DISSUADE WDL MEMBERS FROM FURTHER ACTIVITY BY DEMONSTRATING

THAT THEY CAN BE CHARGED UNDER ARTICLE 271 OF THE POLISH PENAL CODE. WHILE THE REGIME HAS NOT IDENTIFIED THE "FOREIGN CENTERS" IT HAS IN MIND, KURON BELIEVES THIS TO BE RADIO FREE EUROPE. ACCORDING TO A WESTERN CORRESPONDENT HERE, THE WDL CONTINUES TO BE VERY SENSITIVE TO ANY RFE PROGRAMMING RELATED TO IT WHICH COULD BE PRESENTED AS "FALSE INFORMATION".

3. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE POLISH AUTHORITIES WOULD RATHER SCARE THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE THAN ARREST THEM. THE MOST RECENT PRESSURE ON THE WDL COULD BE A RESPONSE TO CRITICISM OF GIEREK AT THE PARTY PLENUM APRIL 14 (REF B), JUST AS THE MARCH 4 MOVE MAY HAVE BEEN A RESPONSE TO CRITICISM WHICH SURFACED FOLLOWING THE POLITBIURO MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22 (REF C).  
END COMMENT.  
DAVIES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, ARRESTS, STUDENTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977WARSAW02678  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 WARSAW 1625, 77 WARSAW 2664  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PL, WDL, (KURON, JACEK)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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